

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 H-02

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RO'MELIA - CAB (INFORMED)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

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TOKYO FOR STYLES

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, UK

SUBJECT: US-UK AVIATION DISPUTE

1. DISCUSSIONS WE HAVE HAD WITH BRITISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON ON BASIS OF LATEST FREQUENCY PROPOSALS OF U.S. AIRLINES FOR WINTER SEASON BEGINNING NOV. 1 HAVE LED TO BRITISH AGREEMENT TO RESCIND UNILATERAL ORDER LIMITING CHICAGO-LONDON AND MIAMI-LONDON CAPACITY.

2. EMBASSY SHOULD DELIVER FOLLOWING LETTER TO GEORGE ROGERS (DOT) AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THURSDAY:

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QTE: DEAR GEORGE: THIS IS TO INFORM YOU OF THE PLANS OF

TRANS WORLD AIRWAYS AND NATIONAL AIRLINES FOR FREQUENCIES ON CHICAGO-LONDON AND MIAMI-LONDON RESPECTIVELY FOR THE WINTER SEASON BEGINNING NOVEMBER 1, 1976.

TWA PLANS TO FLY FIVE FREQUENCIES PER WEEK IN EACH DIRECTION EXCEPT FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 15 - MARCH 15, DURING WHICH IT PLANS TO FLY FOUR FREQUENCIES PER WEEK. NATIONAL PLANS TO FLY SIX FREQUENCIES PER WEEK IN EACH DIRECTION EXCEPT (A) ONE WEEK IN DECEMBER AND ALL OF FEBRUARY, DURING WHICH IT PLANS TO FLY FIVE FREQUENCIES PER WEEK AND (B) ONE WEEK IN DECEMBER AND ONE WEEK IN JANUARY, DURING WHICH IT PLANS TO FLY SEVEN FREQUENCIES PER WEEK.

THESE PLANS ARE BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION BY THE AIRLINES THAT BRITISH AIRWAYS WILL FLY MATCHING FREQUENCIES AND, FURTHER, THAT BRITISH AIRWAYS ON MIAMI-LONDON WILL TAKE STEPS TO EQUATE THE CAPACITY OF ITS B-747'S TO THAT OF NATIONAL AIRLINES DC-10'S. EACH AIRLINE WILL BE FREE TO SELECT THE DAYS OF THE WEEK ON WHICH IT CHOOSES TO FLY.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THE FOREGOING PLANS ARE SATISFACTORY TO YOU AND, CONSEQUENTLY, THAT YOU WILL RESCIND THE ORDER PREVIOUSLY ISSUED TO TWA AND NATIONAL WITH REGARD TO CAPACITY FOR THE FORTHCOMING WINTER SEASON. I WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING A CONFIRMATION OF THIS UNDERSTANDING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. FOR OUR PART, AS SOON AS THE ORDER TO TWA AND NATIONAL IS RESCINDED, WE WILL TAKE THE ACTION NECESSARY TO ASSURE THAT THE PROPOSED CAB ORDER AFFECTING BRITISH AIRWAYS OPERATIONS IN LOS ANGELES IS WITHDRAWN OR DISAPPROVED. SINCERELY YOURS, JOEL W. BILLER, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY. UNQUOTE.

3. IN TRANSMITTING LETTER, EMBASSY SHOULD MAKE POINT OF MENTIONING TO ROGERS THAT WE AND GORDON-CUMMING OF BRITISH EMBASSY HAVE AGREED TO MEET EARLY NEXT WEEK TO NEGOTIATE REASONABLE FIFTH FREEDOM TRAFFIC LEVELS FOR PANAM ON HONG KONG-SYDNEY. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT WE CAN AGREE ON MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY LEVEL, WHICH PANAM WILL ABIDE BY UNTIL IT TERMINATES ITS HONG KONG-SYDNEY SERVICE ON FEBRUARY 1, 1977.

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4. IF FEASIBLE, WE WOULD LIKE RESPONSE FROM ROGERS THAT WOULD REACH US PRIOR TO C.O.B. THURSDAY, OCT 7. IN ANY CASE, EMBASSY SHOULD REPORT ON ITS CONVERSATION WITH ROGERS BY CABLE WHICH WILL REACH DEPARTMENT BY THAT TIME. ROBINSON

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